EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ms. Julie Lake on January 7, 2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

In claim 4, delete line 5 - "R^1 is as defined in claim 1; and".

In claim 6, delete line 5 – "R^1, R^2 and R^3 are as defined in claim 1; and".

In claim 6, line 6, delete "formula (II) as defined in claim 4" and in place insert:

-- formula (II):

$$-X-R^4 \qquad (II)$$

in which

X is selected from -NH-SO_2-, -NH-SO_2-NH-, -CH_2-SO_2-, -SO_2-NH-, -NH-CO-NH-, -NH-CS-NH-, -NH-CO-O-, -NH-CO-, -CO-NH-, -NH-CO-NH-SO_2-, -NH-CO-NH-CO-, -O-, -S-, -SO-, SO_2-, -NH-, -CH_2-, -CH_2O- and –CH_2S-; and

R^4 represents aryl, aryl(C_{1-6})alkyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, C_{1-6} alkyl, heteroaryl(C_{1-6})alkyl, C_{3-7} heterocycloalkyl or C_{2-6} alkenyl, any of which groups may be optionally substituted --.

(Copy of claims 4 and 6 as amended as enclosed in Appendix.)

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Deepak Rao whose telephone number is (571) 272-0672. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00am to 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James O. Wilson, can be reached at (571) 272-0661. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-1600.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

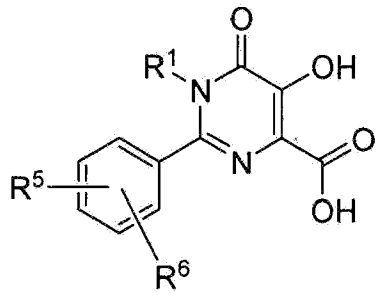
/Deepak Rao/
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1624

January 9, 2008

APPENDIX

Copy of claims 4 and 6 as amended by examiner's amendment:

4. (Currently Amended) A compound as claimed in claim 3 represented by formula (IV):



(IV)

wherein

~~R^1 is as defined in claim 1; and~~

R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from hydrogen and a substituent group of formula (II):

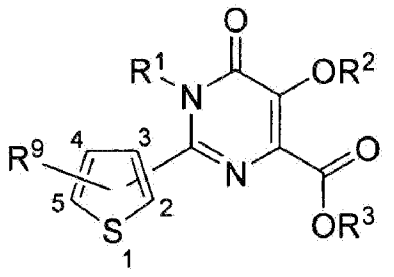
$$-X-R^4 \qquad (II)$$

in which

X is selected from -NH-SO_2-, -NH-SO_2-NH-, -CH_2-SO_2-, -SO_2-NH-, -NH-CO-NH-, -NH-CS-NH-, -NH-CO-O-, -NH-CO-, -CO-NH-, -NH-CO-NH-SO_2-, -NH-CO-NH-CO-, -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO_2-, -NH-, -CH_2-, -CH_2O- and -CH_2S-; and

R^4 represents aryl, aryl(C_{1-6})alkyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, C_{1-6} alkyl, heteroaryl(C_{1-6})alkyl, C_{3-7} heterocycloalkyl or C_{2-6} alkenyl, any of which groups may be optionally substituted.

6. (Currently Amended) A compound as claimed in claim 5 represented by formula (XI) below:



(XI)

wherein

~~R^1, R^2 and R^3 are as defined in claim 1; and~~

R^9 represents hydrogen, or a group of formula (II): ~~as defined in claim 4~~

$-X-R^4$ (II)

in which

X is selected from $-NH-SO_2-$, $-NH-SO_2-NH-$, $-CH_2-SO_2-$, $-SO_2-NH-$, -NH-CO-NH-, -NH-CS-NH-, -NH-CO-O-, -NH-CO-, -CO-NH-, $-NH-CO-NH-SO_2-$, -NH-CO-NH-CO-, -O-, -S-, -SO-, SO_2-, -NH-, $-CH_2-$, $-CH_2O-$ and $-CH_2S-$; and

R^4 represents aryl, aryl(C_{1-6})alkyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl, C_{1-6} alkyl, heteroaryl(C_{1-6})alkyl, C_{3-7} heterocycloalkyl or C_{2-6} alkenyl, any of which groups may be optionally substituted.